

To Members, the California State Board of Education

I am a San Diego resident. I am very much concerned about the article of "sex slave" portion on page 469 in the Chapter 15.

First, it seems to be very awkward and unnatural to state the "comfort women" in the middle of talking about fighting conditions of the World War II. The article of "comfort women" should be removed from page 469. If the "comfort women" article needs to be mentioned for protesting woman rights in the textbook, a new separate section should be created to talk about "human rights during the war". In this case it should include not only "comfort women by the Japanese military" but also "Vietnam comfort women by the Korean military during the Vietnam War"(1) as well as the Korean comfort women supplied for US military during the Korean War(2) and probably other militaries of the world.

If the textbook mentions only about the Japanese military, it may function bashing or cause to bully Japanese nationals in US.

Secondly, the "sex slave" is totally wrong. It is understood that those women should be described as "war-prostitutes" according to the facts based on the investigations made by many Japanese trustworthy scholars. The "comfort places" were run by "private business companies". Those women were paid very high salary and had day offs. The textbook article also says, "estimates on the total number of comfort women vary, but most argue that hundreds of thousands of women were forced to ...", but there were many Japanese war-prostitutes as well. It should be noted that those women had to be engaged in the work of prostitution against their wishes although they were paid very high salary.

I am not going to escape from or justify the "comfort women" by the Japanese military and I feel very sorry for those women, but they were not "sex slave" and the "sex slave" description is wrong!! There are already many misleading judgements and documents in US based on some personal perspectives. Therefore, I want the Board of Education to investigate the truth about those women referencing to many Japanese trustworthy scholars. The Japanese military never made them "slaves".

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(1)

<http://www.nationofchange.org/2015/04/09/the-scars-of-war-vietnam-comfort-women/>

<http://www.foxnews.com/opinion/2015/10/13/president-park-should-use-us-visit-to-publicly-apologize-for-south-koreas-sexual-violence-in-vietnam.html>

http://english.hani.co.kr/arti/english_edition/e_international/688435.html

<http://www.dailykos.com/story/2015/3/16/1371238/-Korean-Comfort-Women-Exposed>

(2)

<http://www.sdh-fact.com/book-article/547/>